



**Grant  
CITY OF AUSTIN  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 13  
AGENDA DATE: Thu 08/18/2005  
PAGE: 1 of 2**

**SUBJECT:** Authorize an ordinance accepting grant funds from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), in the amount of \$111,989 for the Austin Police Department project entitled "Comprehensive Victim Services Program"; amending the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance 040913-01 to appropriate \$111,989 for a total grant amount of \$422,989.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding in the amount of \$422,989 is available in Fiscal Year 2005 - 2006 (July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006) from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). A match of \$323,898 is required and will be met through in-kind volunteer hours and by continuing the existing salary funding and additional personnel expenses for grant funded FTEs in the Fiscal Year 2005 - 2006 Proposed Operating Budget for the Austin Police Department, Comprehensive Victim Services Program.

**FISCAL NOTE:** A fiscal note is attached.

**REQUESTING Police  
DEPARTMENT:**

**DIRECTOR'S  
AUTHORIZATION: Rick Coy**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rick Coy, Assistant Chief/974-5021

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** January 27, 2005 grant application for Fiscal Year 2005

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** N/A

**PURCHASING:** N/A

**MBE / WBE:** N/A

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This RCA is to accept and appropriate funds by an ordinance for \$422,989 in grant renewal funding from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) for the Austin Police Department. A match of \$323,898 includes the in-kind hours provided by Victim Services volunteers and the benefit costs for the grant funded counselors. The grant funds a total of 10 FTEs to provide services for approximately 6,000 victims of crime. The goal of the grant program is to increase the number of primary and secondary crime victims receiving counseling and referral services during the initial stages of crisis, in following-up with adult crime victims, and in working with children witnessing or experiencing family, school and/or community violence. The grant period runs from July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006. Appropriation of \$311,000 is currently included in the FY2005 Approved Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund. This council action increases the total grant appropriation to \$422,989.

The APD Victim Services Program positively impact the quality of life for the citizens of Austin by assisting victims/survivors and their families who have experienced crime. These services will help them recover more quickly and completely from the effects of victimization. The ten (10) grant-funded FTE Victim Counselors provide on-scene crisis stabilization (Crisis Team) and investigative support and follow-up (Centralized Investigations and Family Violence) services.

On-scene crisis response (Crisis Team) provides counselors on the street, seven days a week, 24-hours a day, to provide immediate, on-the-scene crisis intervention for victims, witnesses, and emergency



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responders. Victim Service Counselors are also assigned to the Centralized Investigations Bureau (CIB) and the Family Violence Unit. Working in conjunction with unit detectives, Victim Services provides counseling and advocacy to victims and witnesses of major crimes against persons during the investigative process. These counselors respond to the needs of those affected by family violence, homicide, robbery, child abuse, sex crimes, DWI and traffic fatalities, missing persons, elder abuse, and aggravated assaults.

These counselors provide crisis counseling, justice support and advocacy, personal advocacy, forensic interviews, death notifications, jail release notifications, community debriefings, information and referrals, and assistance filing crime victim's compensation for victims.

This grant addresses the Department goal of reducing crime, fear of crime, and improving the quality of life of Austin's residents. It also addresses the following APD Program Objective: The purpose of the Victim Services Program is to respond to the psychological and emotional needs of victims/families, neighbors and community members experiencing crime and/or trauma so that they can recover more quickly and completely from the effects of victimization.

**OPERATING BUDGET  
Fiscal Note**

**DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**  
**WHERE ON AGENDA:**  
**DEPARTMENT:**

**8/15/2005**  
**Ordinance**  
**Police**

**SUBJECT:** Approve an ordinance authorizing the acceptance of grant funds from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), in the amount of \$111,989 for the Austin Police Department project entitled "Comprehensive Victim Services Program"; amending the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance 040913-01 to appropriate \$111,989 for a total grant amount of \$422,989.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

	<u>Approved Budget 2004-2005</u>	<u>Impact of this Action</u>	<u>Amended Budget 2004-2005</u>
Special Revenue Fund Comprehensive Victim Services Program (VOCA) 08/01/2005 - 08/01/2006	\$311,000	\$111,989	\$422,989
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$311,000</u>	<u>\$111,989</u>	<u>\$422,989</u>
<b>FTEs</b>	8.00	-	8.00

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding in the amount of \$111,989 is available from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA).

Budget Office: Mari Feb Date: 8-4-05

**ORDINANCE NO.**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS AND AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005 POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET OF ORDINANCE NO. 040913-01 TO APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDS.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

**PART 1.** The Council authorizes the acceptance of \$111,989 in grant funds from the State of Texas, Governor's Office, Criminal Justice Division, Victims of Crime Act.

**PART 2.** The Council amends the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 040913-01 to appropriate \$111,989 to the Austin Police Department project entitled: "Comprehensive Victim Services Program."

**PART 3.** This ordinance takes effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

**PASSED AND APPROVED**

\_\_\_\_\_, 2005      §  
                                 §  
                                 § \_\_\_\_\_  
                                 Will Wynn  
                                 Mayor

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
                         David Allan Smith  
                         City Attorney

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Shirley A. Brown  
                         City Clerk